



Greetings FHI Stakeholders!

See below for updates, announcements, and save the dates from the Family Homelessness Initiative.

INITIATIVE NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

****Please Note: There will be no June FHI Information Session****

On June 24th, FHI and SKCCH Families with Children committee are co-sponsoring the regularly scheduled June SKCCH Families with Children Meeting (9:30-11:30 at Cherry St. YWCA)

See details below

FHI ADVISORY GROUP UPDATE:

The Family Homelessness Initiative Advisory Group (AG) met May 21. The meeting objectives were:

- ***Provide input and direction on the new FHI Implementation Plan planning process***
The Advisory Group provided input on the proposed work plan for the development of the new FHI Implementation Plan. The AG will participate in the oversight of the planning process and agreed to meet more frequently during this process in order to provide oversight of the process and timely input on the proposed recommendations. The goal is to complete the plan for adoption at the end of 2016 Q1.
- ***Provide input on the proposed Housing Resource Center Concept for coordinated entry.***
The Advisory Group was provided a brief overview of work to date on the proposed HRC model, including a walkthrough of what the 'hubs' are, how resources would be provided and how families would be served, assessed and referred. The group provided feedback to the members of the work group and raised questions that should be answered as the process moves forward. Examples include: availability of resources vs. expectation of services that will/can be provided (don't want to create new waitlists); vision of where we want to be vs. where we are now (reality); etc.
- ***The Advisory Group is able to utilize Westat data and stakeholder feedback to advise and guide the new FHI Implementation Plan.***
The May FHI stakeholder Info Session was combined with the FHI Advisory Group meeting and provided a presentation on the Family Impact Study Baseline Data presented by Westat, the evaluation team for the Washington Families Fund Systems Initiative Evaluation. The presentation, *In Their Voice: Suggestions for Systems Change from Families*, provided feedback from local families. A copy of the PowerPoint is available on the FHI [website](#).

There were great questions for the evaluation team and audience discussion following the presentation. In particular, feedback on how this (and other 'family level') data should be used to inform the development of the new Implementation Plan. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be posted to our website this week.

The FHI Advisory Group meets every other month (next meeting is in July). *Past agendas and meeting summaries can be found on the FHI website.*

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES - NEWS & UPDATES:

Coordinated Entry System – Progress on FHC process changes

Block Scheduling: FHC continues to report block scheduling is showing promising results. Appointments continue to be available within a week of family's initial call to 211.

WATCH: FHC continues to report that families are responding positively to the offer of running WATCH background checks

Other upcoming milestones/next steps:

- ❑ A Coordinated Entry workgroup is continuing to develop a proposed model for decentralized assessments, which will include regionally based Family Housing Resource Centers via community-based "hubs".
- ❑ Efforts are underway to align coordinated entry planning for all-populations – to reflect the CE Vision affirmed by the IAC in March.
- ❑ A small workgroup will review options for a new assessment tool and recommend an explicit prioritization policy for the family system.
- ❑ Funders will be working with providers to reduce and standardize screening criteria for better access to appropriate housing resources

Visit the FHI website to see materials related to the system redesign, including projected timeline and quarterly process/policy changes. Click on the following link ([Final Report](#)) to review the report.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel to contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

System Realignment Work

Realignment efforts are continuing as planned with local providers participating in the first phase. More information can be found on the Initiative website: www.kingcounty.gov/familyhomelessness. If you have questions or would like to discuss realignment options for any of your time-limited programs, please contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

Systems Innovation Grants (SIG)

Shelter to Housing Project

There will be no implementation check-in or Learning Circle in June given the 2-day training occurring early in the month. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for: July 7th from 2-3:30. More details to come. If you participate in the Shelter to Housing Project, please send agenda items/requests to triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

More about the Shelter to Housing Project and project guidelines can be found on the FHI [website](#).

Risk Mitigation Funds

Reminder to transitional housing projects eligible to access Risk Mitigation Funds (RMF): Projects can submit their RMF applications at any time. RMF Guidelines and forms can be found on the FHI [website](#) and additional questions can be directed to triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

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OTHER NEWS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS & UPDATES:

Youth Housing Connection is transitioning to the Committee to End Homelessness!

Youth Housing Connection (YHC) is King County's coordinated engagement system that creates one path for all homeless and unstably housed young adults to access housing. In April 2015, YHC began to transition from Catholic Community Services (CCS) to the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH). See the attached flyer for more information.

UPCOMING FUNDING OR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:



FREE Fair Housing Accessibility Training

Tuesday, June 23, 8 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Register at <http://fhafirst.eventbrite.com>

Information: Questions may be directed GSonnabend@lcmarchitects.com

Valley Cities is hiring:

Valley Cities is looking for an experienced mental health clinician to provide outreach and engagement of homeless individuals in a variety of settings including emergency shelters, community suppers, and other places homeless individuals tend to congregate. Services provided include assessing for mental health and/or co-occurring disorders, basic needs, and linkage to other community services.

<http://www.valleycities.org/vcjobs/mental-health-outreach-specialist-bridges-program/>

WHAT'S COMING NEXT FOR FHI

Monthly FHI Stakeholder Information Session

The Family Homelessness Initiative staff host monthly information sessions to talk with local stakeholders (providers and funders) about the work of the Initiative. This is an opportunity to hear about current projects, what is coming up next, and to ask questions and provide input.

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FHC Feedback Session will be held as planned - June 17th, 10:00-11:00am at the 2100 Building

Contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@kingcounty.gov or visit the Initiative website for more information on the Info Session or Yasin Darmulo at yasind@ccsww.org for more information on the FHC Feedback Meetings.

CONTACT US

If you have questions about any of the above updates, or if you would like us to share any announcements, opportunities, or items on your behalf in future monthly emails, you can contact Debbi Knowles at debbi.knowles@cehkc.org.

Please feel free to contact any FHI staff member for more information or assistance:

Debbi Knowles, debbi.knowles@cehkc.org, 206-263-9088

Triina Tennelo, triina.tennelo@cehkc.org, 206-263-9110

Visit our website to learn more about the Family Homelessness Initiative or to locate any of the documents referenced in this email at www.kingcounty.gov/familyhomelessness.

For more information on the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) or to see the most recent CEH monthly newsletter, go to the website at www.cehkc.org